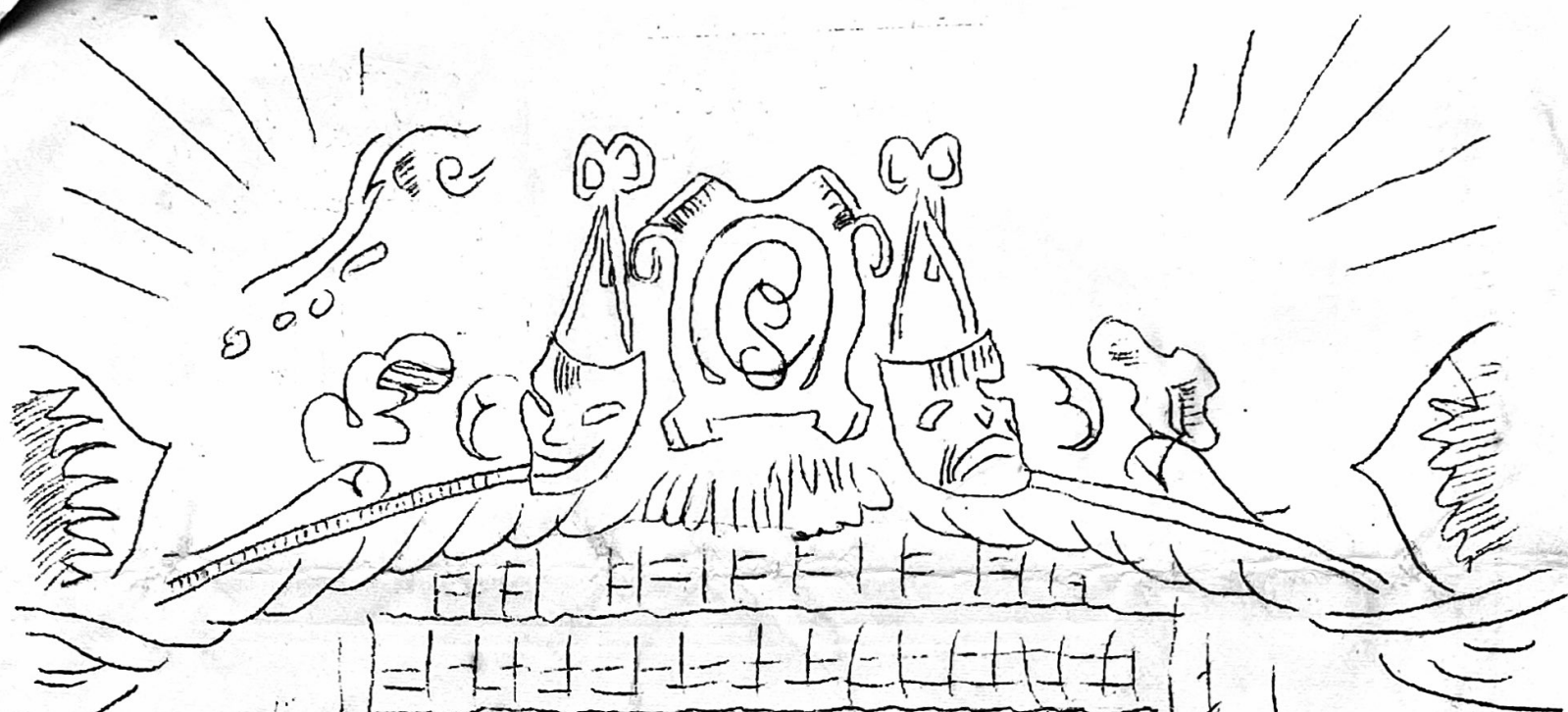
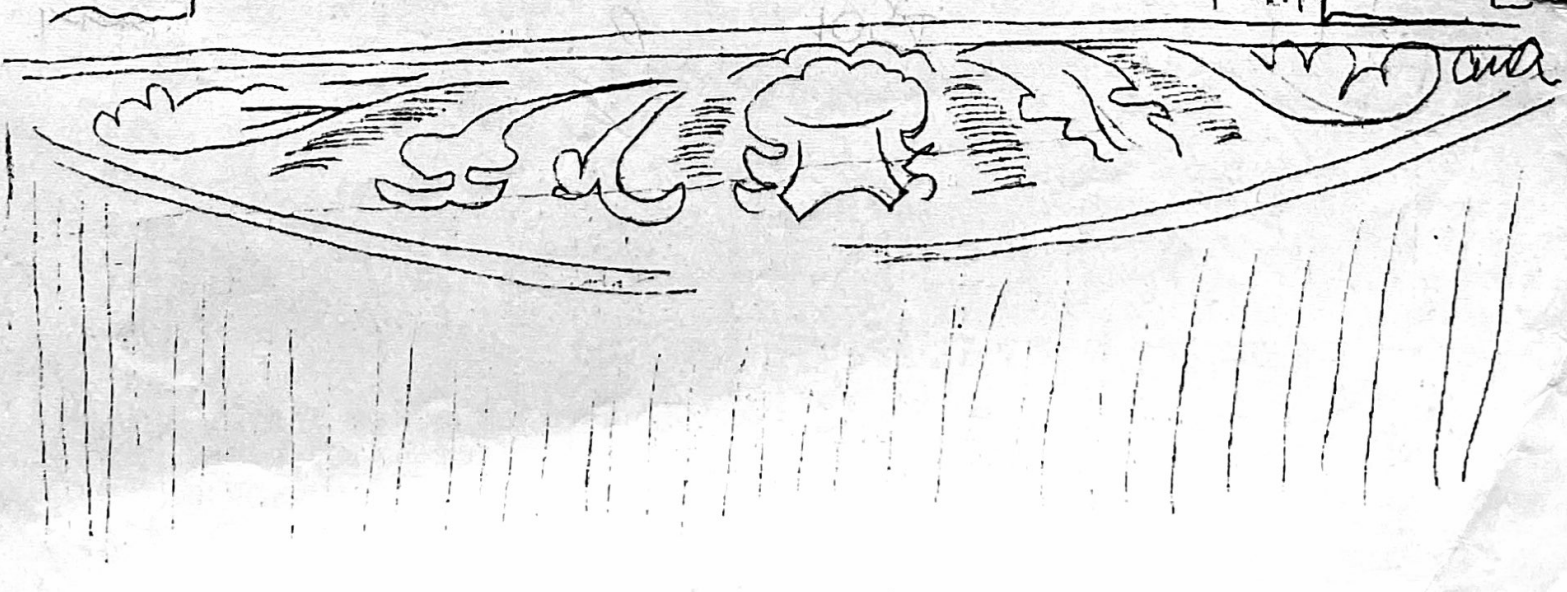




The
CROSBY
POST

June
1954.



"SO THIS IS PEACE?"

Written in
1946

BOB
ADPE

Of course, London being the home of the well dressed man, Crosby created quite a furor. He strolled through Piccadilly and people followed him the way that children followed the Pied Piper through the streets of Hamelin. Yes sir! those pipes of Bing's - and I don't mean the ones he smokes - had a magical effect on morale whenever he showed up. And he showed up wherever there was a guy in uniform because everyone of those G.I.'s carried Crosby in his heart. Nobody gave more of his time and talent to the AFPS and nobody came as near to being a real ambassador of Good Will as did der Bingle who sang their folk songs in French to the French and "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas" in German to the "Krouts" - smacking the Hun morale right where it was weakest - their ability to take it any longer.

Wherever Bing went in London crowds gathered and had to be dispersed by the bobbies.

The constabulary had to disperse these gatherings owing to the black-out regulations and the fact that it was before V-E day with large gatherings still not permitted.

One night Bing had ducked down to a little restaurant in Soho for a midnight snack and, before he had left, he had given three choruses of "Blue of the Night" to cool his broth. There was a mob outside hollering for him.

A constable came up to Bing and said, "Ih Yih Sir, you'd better go to the wind-er, sir, and show your bloomin' fice!".

So Bing went to the window and the crowd screamed.

"Ow's for a song?"

"Sing something!"

"Sing for us."

"We want to hear you sing."

Bing said, "If I knock off one number for you will break it up and let me hang on the feed bag?"

"Right y'are guvner!" a Cockney voice shouted.

"What would you like to hear?"

The same Cockney looked up and hollered, "If you think it ain't too much trouble, guvner, 'ows for singin' your theme song "Thanks for the memory?"

"DOWN JUNKSHOP lane"

by
TED
LAKER

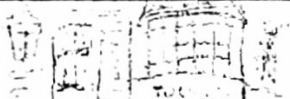
Have you ever turned off the busy thoroughfares of any town - your town, for instance? Why should you? Quite natural if you're after old Crosby classics which might be discovered in one of those treasure chests of the inquisitive - the 'junk shop'. No doubt that you've passed one at some time or other. No doubt you've tried to peer through grimy windows at the array of mysterious objects which might be a Crosby-Whiteman original - which might be somebody's old apidistra. You can't always tell at first sight. You stand and look until you are able to ~~discern~~ discern a dusty pile of cobwebbed records. Is your silent plea answered? Only one thing to do - go in and see if one of those records is an Arnheim or Whiteman. Take care not to trip over the well worn step you tread on an uneven, unwashed floor and proceed to 'do the obstacle course' in order to get to the pile of records you saw from outside.

As you blow some of the dust from the top records and start to look over the information on the labels someone usually impersonating Rip Van Winkle appears. He is not really Rip Van nor is he his impersonator. His real title is "The Merchant of Venice" and by the way he's rubbing his hands you know it's your money he's after and, if possible, a pound of your flesh as well!

As you peruse the dirty pile your excitement wanes until, quite suddenly you come across an aged Columbia label. Your heart pounds and you make an hysterical dash for the doorway and sunlight so you may

make a closer examination. It's a Paul Whiteman WITH VOCAL TRIO!! You suddenly remember to breathe and it is a relief!! Next thing, you remove the mildewed envelope and check the disc for surface condition only to find there is a large chunk out of the record.

Without a word and bitterly disappointed you leave the shop giving the proprietor a dirty look as though he actually broke the record (wonder if he really did?) and make tracks for home ready to give anyone an argument who warrants it and who doesn't Crosby addict.

 A LETTER FROM Mrs. L. Williams of
Hullo all Bing fans! *The Gingle Truck Shop*

We all have something very much in common - a very great admiration for Bing Crosby. This is easily accounted for as he is so friendly and sincere.

I've seen a great number of his films, and am certain he is alone inasmuch as he can act so smoothly and naturally. Who was it who said, "Anyone can play somebody else but it takes a great actor to play himself." I don't aim to be wholly flattering, and Bing is the last person to desire flattery but what I have said is true - Bing being almost too reluctant to admit it.

It is very hard luck on us that we cannot see his American Television shows however we can look forward to "White Christmas" in the summer months this year.

I expect most of you have read Bing's autobiography "Call Me Lucky" in which he says he is no great actor. I don't agree, especially after his wonderful portrayal in "Little Boy Lost". He further states that he has never done and is never going to create anything of importance. In his modesty he, quite genuinely, does not realise the tremendous amount of entertainment he has given to people all over the world. The world is a little better now that Crosby has passed this way is the least one could say of him.

The American magazine, "Silver Screen" says that Bing and Danny Kaye are considering making more films together as they liked the results of "White Christmas": It reads that Bing, after finishing this film, went to spend the weekend with his mother and the boys. Later he went, or rather he "teed off" for Palm Springs, Eldest son Gary Crosby says it's murder trying to get hold of Bing when he's at Palm Springs. Seems there ain't no 'phones on the golfing greens!

Well, folks I trust I haven't bored you. If I have I refuse point blank to take back one single word of praise I've given to Bing.

Cheerio for now.

The Crosby Post

IS THE MONTHLY
JOURNAL OF....

T H E C R O S B Y S O C I E T Y

Established March, 1950.

Honorary President
Honorary Vice President
Honorary Members

- Bing Crosby.
- Larry Crosby.
- Jim Wilson,
Jack Buchanan.

.....

Active Presidents
Vice President & Secretary
Representative & Discologist

- Jean Rainey, A.N.Allen.
- Dorothy Hardiman.
- Colin Pugh.

EDITORIAL

Thanks to all of you loyal members who have sent in material for inclusion in "Crosby Post". As you'll see by this issue I have been able to print three articles by members. The members we must thank especially this month are Mr. Ted Laker and Mrs. L. Williams.

Also, in this number, I have allotted Colin Pugh more space and to all you Crosby discologists I say that I hope you can now absorb Colin's reviews without going cross-eyed owing to it being overcrowded. I must admit that I get so interested in Colin's material that I cannot help errors creeping in the typing. I'm so busy thinking about what he said in the last paragraph I forget what I'm typing in the next.

To those of you who have not yet become record collectors I hasten to advise you to embark on this interesting and time absorbing hobby. The main thing about the pursuit of Crosby discs is that you pay-as-you-go and so there is no outlay except if you don't already have a gramophone. Even these are very cheap these days and one firm markets a portable electric amplifier gramophone playing all three speeds for as little as £15:15:0. The main thing about this instrument, which is made by Regentone, is it's faithful reproduction at generous volume and it's 'silent needle noise'. Indeed, the pick-up is so light in weight that there is virtually no wear of records which counts for a lot when you have some rare Crosby disc in your collection. Should you break a valuable record in these modern times you can buy a bottle of special adhesive which will join the crack making the record nearly as good as new, in fact, I have used this adhesive and am happily and frequently loading a mended record on to an automatic changer gram.

The journal could still do with some drawings for reproduction in these pages and again I ask you cartoonists to get busy and send me your drawings. The address? Mr. A.N. Allen at 68 Grimston road, Radford Boulevard, Nottingham.

Until next month.

A. N. A.



BING'S MOTHER and his sister, Katherine sailed for Europe in the 'United States' on April 23rd. Mrs. Crosby, who is 80, is to have an audience with the Pope and also hopes to get to France - and Ireland, where she has relatives. We don't know whether she plans on visiting England but we hope we'll have the pleasure of seeing the person who, in no small way, responsible for Bing's success. Undoubtedly, his upbringing helped him bear the great burden of success with such dignity and humility.

BING too is reported to be Europe bound although we have no details yet. Should he bring the four boys we suppose he'll not come until their term is finished at school. Gary, by the way, graduates from Stanford University in June when he is 21.

WHEN TED LAKER learned that ROBERT BEATTY was doing a new record series for the BBC each Saturday evening: he suggested to Robert that he should give Bing's "Y'all Come" an airing. Mr. BEATTY obliged with that and two other Crosby waxings. If any of you want a Bing record Mr. Beatty is your man for he has always been a Crosby addict and your letters will be assured of sympathetic attention.

(continued on next page-opposite)



the CROSBY WAXWORKS

by Colin Rugh.

Failing anything actually new for April, and no mid-April issue at all, we are relieved to find we have one release for May bearing two very welcome sides on Brunswick 05294 - "Haunted Heart" and "Maria Bonita". The former is long overdue being of 1947 vintage whilst the latter is over three years since it was recorded. These two songs are Latin American rhythms, both being rhumbas, which obviously accounts for their coupling.

"HAUNTED HEART" was recorded on December 31st 1947 and bears matrix number L4795. Bing sings it to the accompaniment of John Scott Trotter's orchestra and here is where I think the number falls down. Much as I like this orchestra for ordinary love songs and ballads, personally, I don't think it suited to this type of rhythm. I'm afraid this 'lack of atmosphere' transferred its colour to Bing who we've all heard do much better than this. The overall effect is somewhat 'dreary'. However, do not be put off by such criticism, for in spite of everything the recording provides quite average listening.

"MARIA BONITA" brings us Bing with the Bando Da Lua, and what a contrast to its backing! This side has everything the other one lacks. The tune itself is more lively and more tuneful. The accompaniment is more appropriate with an added vocal assistance. Bing is in better voice and sounds far more 'chirpy'. On the whole this is an excellent example of this type of rhythm and can be recommended to those who favour such. The matrix number is L6042 and it was recorded on February 5th 1951 at the same session as "Copacabana", "Quizas, Quizas" and "Granada".

Another Long Play disc of Bing's has been issued - LA 8656 - with the caption, "WAY BACK HOME". The eight songs are:-

"WAY BACK HOME"
"MAY OWN BIT OF LAND"
"JUST A PRAYER AWAY"
"MEADOWS OF HEAVEN"

"THE IOWA INDIAN SONG"
"EARLY AMERICAN"
"MY MOTHER'S WALTZ"
"THE LAST MILE HOME"

One title immediately arrests our attention - "EARLY AMERICAN" - previously being ~~xxxxxx~~ unissued here. As some of us are aware there have been two recordings by Bing of this title - one in 1945 and one

(continued on back page)

crozstalk... ..crozstalk.....crozstalk.....crozstalk.....crozstalk.....

ARTHUR YOUNG'S song "The Windmill Man" had its first major broadcast on Good Friday in BBC's "Children's Corner". LESTER FERGUSON sang it and we hope that Arthur will go from strength to strength in view of this success.

AMERICAN DECCA are planning to put BING'S BIOGRAPHY ON RECORDS, mostly singing it will be on 12 twelve inch Long Play records to be sold in the USA for \$25. or in our currency, £8. 15.0 - IF it is ever available

PARAMOUNT FILM SERVICE in London are unable to furnish us with complete details of Vista Vision and suggest we watch the film columns of local newspapers. They did confirm that "WHITE CHRISTMAS" is to be shown in Vista Vision but cannot say when it will be released however, Arthur tells me that a Vista Vision screen has already been allotted to the SAVOY cinema at Nottingham and that Vista Vision requires an even larger screen than the normal wide screen system so Crosby looks like being Bigger and better than ever.

The CROSBY WAXWORKS continued.....

In 1950. Unfortunately, there is no indication which of these was used on this new LP. A comparison of dates of the accompanying titles would lead one to suppose that the 1950 version has been used because of the seven other songs on the LP five have been taken from 1949 recording sessions - the other two songs were of 1944 vintage. But on this slender evidence alone, I could argue that the 1945 version, being longer on Decca's shelves, they now see a favourable opportunity of issuing same, on the assumption that the later version would take better if eventually issued on 78 rpm.

Apparently, American Decca are finding it difficult in maintaining their normal supply to the American public of recorded Crosby material as, in accordance with his general 'leasing off' policy all round, Bing is not, unfortunately, making the same number of recordings he used to. I would myself suggest that Decca should negotiate with 'Valentine Sound Recorders of California', and either purchase from them or, arrange to press under licence, all or a part of their vast recorded stock of Crosbyana, taken over the past several years from Bing's radio programmes aired in the USA. These items could keep the Decca record company going for a number of years at full, or even in excess of, normal Crosby output.

My own Valentine lists ~~xxx~~ only take me up to early 1951 in Radio Programme selections, but even so, therein are listed over 300 items of both Bing on his own and with a whole host of other star artists. It is more than likely that Valentine have continued to date recording these programmes, in which case, the quantity of material must be nearly doubled by now.

Naturally, Valentine have been offering these recordings to the public, either on tape or disc, but these are not regarded in the same light as orthodox pressings marketed under a recognised label. As the former, they are regarded simply as 'private dubbings', but pressed and issued by Decca they would immediately become essential to a complete commercial disc collection. Readily available from Valentines in dollar countries, the position has not been so favourable over here, as you who have tried will be aware when one tries to get anything from the USA. This being the case it might be reasonably accepted that US Decca would not consider this material for their home market. But what about Export?? English Decca and the many companies in the countries who press Bing Crosby platters, would then be able to make it available to a wider range of public. For your decision, ASK yourself a question: would you not like to purchase at your record shop such items by Bing as:-

"ON A SLOW BOAT TO CHINA"

"BLUEBERRY HILL"

"MARTHA"

"ON TOP OF OLD SMOKEY"

"GLOW WORM"

LONESOME IN THE SADDLE"

"MONA LISA"

"DANE"

-- and hundreds of others like these?????

In any case the problem of new issues need not affect us on this side of the Atlantic yet for there are still dozens of unissued recordings, including six more of the hymns Bing recorded for the 'Faith' series which were issued in the USA on Decca Purple Label. Furthermore there is no reason that all items which have, so far, only made their appearance on Long Play labels should not also be issued on 78's. It is not every collector who wishes to collect microgroove records, nor wishes to repeat so much material in order to obtain one or two required items, nor, again, can afford to do so and - there are others who do not possess the necessary equipment to reproduce Long Play records.

::

IF AN 'X' APPEARS HERE _____ YOUR SUBSCRIPTION FEE OF 7/6 IS
DUE AND WE ASK YOU TO SEND YOUR REMITTANCE TO MRS. D. HARDIMAN AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE.